

REMARK

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this application as amended. No claims have been amended. Claims 34-51 claims have been cancelled have been cancelled without prejudice. No claims have been added. Therefore, claims 16-33 are present for examination.

Election of Invention

The Examiner has entered an election requirement, finding distinct species of the claimed invention in Group I comprised of claims 16-33 and Group II comprised of claims 34-51. The applicant elects Group I for prosecution in this application. Claims 34-51 have therefore been cancelled without prejudice.

The Examiner states that a telephone call was made to Applicant's representative on January 15, 2003 regarding this matter. Applicant's representative was unaware that the Examiner had made this call, and apologizes if the Examiner's telephone call was misdirected or if the message from the Examiner was lost.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests examination of the claims presented herein and submits that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

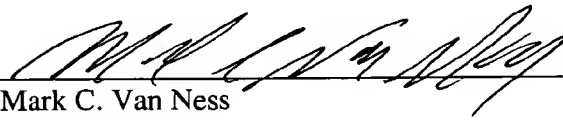
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 2/5/03


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AMENDMENT - MARKED VERSION

Presented below are the amendments, with changes indicated. Insertions are underlined and deletions are bracketed.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 34-51 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

16-33. **[Remain unchanged]**

34-51. **[Canceled without prejudice]**